



THE SEX TRADE: THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

- 1 Prostitution is not just about trading sex for money - but also for food, drugs, shelter, cigarettes or a ride.
- 2 The average age at which youth get involved in the sex trade is 14 years...in fact, kids as young as 8 years have been recruited.
- 3 Youth from all backgrounds are lured into the sex trade...they don't necessarily come from "problem" homes.
- 4 Youth caught in the sex trade face many threats to their health.....drugs and alcohol, AIDS, HIV, STDs, lack of proper food and shelter, unwanted pregnancies, violence and even death.
- 5 Not all youth caught in the sex trade live and work on the street....escort agencies, massage parlours, night clubs, and apartments are all places where sex can be traded for cash.
- 6 Prostitution is not just a girls' issue.....boys sell sex, buy sex and become pimps. Girls can also be pimps and recruiters.
- 7 Youth involvement in the sex trade is a trap...it is sexual exploitation and child abuse.



Sponsored by the Burnaby-New Westminster Task Force on the Sexual Exploitation of Children and Youth.

Kids Help Phone: 1-800-668-6868 or <http://kidshelp.sympatico.ca>